

Remarks / Arguments

Claims 1-15 are currently pending in this application. Claims 8, 11, 12, and 13 are currently amended. No new matter has been added by virtue of these amendments. Support for the amendments of claims 8 and 12 is found in the originally filed specification, such as on page 37, lines 19-27 (with step E305, which is identical to step E706, described on page 24, lines 3-8); page 38, lines 13-22; and page 39, lines 13-20. Claims 11 and 13 were amended to correct typographical errors.

1. Claim Rejections

Claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the reference entitled "Adaptive Watermarking Using Successive Subband Quantization and Perceptual Model Based on Multiwavelet Transform" (hereinafter "Kwon"). The Examiner stated that claims 12 and 14 were allowable because they were dependent on claims 1 and 11. However, claim 12 is an independent claim, and claim 14 is dependent on claim 10. Therefore, claims 12 and 14 are also discussed herein.

The Applicant respectfully asserts that Kwon does not anticipate independent claims 8 and 12, as amended. In order for a reference to anticipate a claim, "[t]he identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." MPEP § 2131 (quoting *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989)). Each and every element recited in the claim must be found in a single reference. *Id.* (citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). Kwon does not anticipate claims 8 and 12, as amended, because Kwon does not disclose all of the features recited in the claims.

Claim 8 has been amended to specify the steps of:

- determination of a watermarked vector VM, and
- during the watermarking, the determination of some binary information, which is inserted on the vector VM.

More precisely, amended claim 8 comprises two new steps:

- forming, for each position and for each component, a vector whose coordinates are the amplitudes of the coefficients at the position in the various detail sub-bands of the component; and
- determining, for each position, a vector comprising some binary information amongst the vectors formed for the position, and determining of inserted binary information.

Claims 12 has been amended to recite means of carrying out the newly added steps of claim 8. Therefore, claim 8 specifies the different steps permitting the detection of the signature that is inserted in the image, while claim 12 recites a device for carrying out the steps recited in claim 8.

As acknowledged by the Examiner in the final paragraph of page 5 of the present Office Action, Kwon does not disclose the step of forming, for each position and for each component, a vector whose coordinates are the amplitudes of the coefficients at the position in the various detail sub-bands of the component. Moreover, Kwon does not disclose the step of determining, for each position, a vector comprising some binary information amongst the vectors formed for the position (vector VM), and determining of inserted binary information in the vector VM. Therefore, Kwon also does not disclose means of carrying out these steps.

Consequently, amended claims 8 and 12 are patentable over Kwon. Claims 9 and 10 are dependent on claim 8; therefore, claims 9 and 10 are also patentable over Kwon. Moreover, claim 14 is dependent on claim 10; therefore, claim 14 is also patentable over Kwon.

2. Request for Reconsideration and Allowance

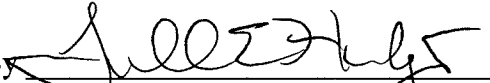
Based upon the above Amendment and Remarks, claims 1-15, as amended, are believed to be in proper form for allowance, and patentable over the prior art made of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of these claims and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Please direct any questions or comments regarding this application to the undersigned.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-3732.

Respectfully submitted,

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